

Amendment to the Specification:

On page 1, lines 5-15, please make the following changes:

Related subject matter is disclosed in U.S. patent application entitled "METHOD OF OPERATING A CLOS NETWORK" having application no. [[_____]] 10/722,048 and filed on the same date herewith and assigned to the same assignee.

Related subject matter is disclosed in U.S. patent application entitled "STRICTLY NON-INTERFERING NETWORK" having application no. [[_____]] 10/722,022 and filed on the same date herewith and assigned to the same assignee.

Related subject matter is disclosed in U.S. patent application entitled "CONNECTION CONTROLLER" having application no. [[_____]] 10/722,021 and filed on the same date herewith and assigned to the same assignee.